

1 **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 12**

2 (By Delegate Walker, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Thompson, and all other
3 Members of the House)

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6
7 Expressing the sense of the Legislature that designating the annual
8 observance of March 31 as "West Virginia State Trooper Day"
9 will appropriately honor the West Virginia State Police and
10 our state troopers and, in addition, serve to increase the
11 awareness and understanding of the West Virginia State Police
12 and our state troopers' contributions to the daily fabric of
13 our lives and sacrifices to theirs and their families.

14 WHEREAS, On March 31, 1919, the then Governor John Jacob
15 Cornwall signed an act into law creating the West Virginia State
16 Police; and

17 WHEREAS, The effective date of the West Virginia State Police
18 was June 29, 1919; and

19 WHEREAS, The West Virginia State Police is recognized as the
20 fourth oldest State Police Agency in the United States; and

21 WHEREAS, The West Virginia State Police has changed throughout
22 its years of existence both in terms of name and function; and

23 WHEREAS, The original name of the West Virginia State Police
24 was the West Virginia Department of Public Safety, however, after

1 a period of time, most citizens referred to the department as the
2 "State Police" though not its official name; and

3 WHEREAS, During the 1989 Regular Legislative Session, the West
4 Virginia Department of Safety grew to encompass more than just the
5 "State Police" and, at that time, the "State Police" became the
6 Department of Public Safety; and

7 WHEREAS, During the 1995 session, the "State Police" was, at
8 long last, officially changed to the West Virginia State Police;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, The role of the West Virginia State Police has
11 expanded over the years to satisfy the needs of the state in areas
12 of safety, crime, investigations, traffic regulation and others;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Despite its turbulent beginnings back in 1919 and its
15 fluctuating budget and police-count over the years, the West
16 Virginia State Police has managed to satisfy its growing duties
17 with dedication, efficiency and professionalism; and

18 WHEREAS, State troopers are first responders to calls for help
19 in a variety of emergencies, ranging from crimes, floods, fires,
20 snow storms, hazardous materials spills and wrecks, to lost
21 children and beloved pets in need of rescue; and

22 WHEREAS, State troopers are at the forefront in the state's war
23 against drugs, spending long hours in often dangerous
24 circumstances; and

1 WHEREAS, State troopers frequently risk their lives to protect
2 the lives and property of their fellow citizens; and

3 WHEREAS, The hardships, dangers and long hours away from home
4 endured by our State Police cause loving family members to bear
5 many sacrifices and hardships; therefore, be it

6 *Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

7 That March 31 be designated as "West Virginia State Trooper
8 Day"; and, be it

9 *Further Resolved,* That the Governor is hereby requested to
10 take suitable public notice of this day in honor, recognition and
11 appreciation of all West Virginia State Police and their families;
12 and, be it

13 *Further Resolved,* That the Clerk of the House of Delegates
14 forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor of West
15 Virginia and to the Superintendent of the West Virginia State
16 Police.